



MICROGRAPHIA.

scope with a single Glas which drew about half an Inch, into a little frame, almost like a pair of Spectacles, which mine eyes, and so holding the leaf of a Nettle at a convenient distance from my eye, I did first, with the thrusting of several of my skin, perceive that presently after I had thrust them in, the itching pain begin; next I observ'd in divers of them, that when I put my finger against their tops, the Bodkin (if I may so call them) would not the least bend, but I could perceive moving up and down, as if it contain liquor, which upon thrusting the Bodkin against it, would rise. I could perceive to rise towards the top, and upon taking it out, I could see it again subside, and shrink into the bagg, which was often, and saw this *Phenomenon* as plain as I could ever see any water ascend and descend in a pipe of Glas. But the basis of these little Bodkins on which they were fast, were made of a more soft substance, and looked almost like a little bagg of green Leather, which resembled the shape and surface of a wilde Cucumber, or Melon, and I could plainly perceive them to be certain little receptacles full of water, or as I guess, the liquor of the skin, and those small Bodkins were but the Syringe-pipes, which first made way into the skin, and then that poisonous juice, upon the pressing of those little bodkins, into the interior and sensible parts of the skin, which being so disposed, would sooner or later, or, as it were, burn that part of the skin it toucht, and will sometimes last very long, according as the impression was more or stronger.

The other parts of the leaf or surface of the Nettle considerable, but what is common to most of these kind ruggedness or indenting, and hairiness, and other rough face or out-side of the Plant, of which I may say more. As I shall likewise of certain little pretty cleer Balls I have observed to stick to the sides of these leaves, both under side, very much like the small Apples which I have to grow on the leaves of an Oak call'd *Oak-apples* which the *Matrices* of an Insect, as I elsewhere shew.

The chief thing therefore is, how this Plant comes, by to create so great a pain; and the reason of this seems to be the corrosive penetrant liquor contain'd in the small bubbles upon which grow out those sharp Syringe-pipes, as I have before very consonant to this, is the reason of the pain created by the Bee, Wasp, &c. as I elsewhere shew: For by the Dart, or Syringe-pipe, is made a deep passage into the skin, and then by the Fly, is his gally poisonous liquor injected; which being mix'd with the sensible parts, and so mix'd with the humours or fluids of that part, does create an Ebullition perhaps, or effervescence observ'd in the mingling of two differing Chymical substances, which means the parts become swell'd, hard, and thereby the nervous and sensible parts are not onely stru-